

D R A F T

USAF review(s) completed.

14 July 1971

Dear Dave,

The proposition you forwarded to me, which would transfer one U-2 to the Air Force, certainly gets some of the things done that we want to accomplish but at a cost I don't think we want to bear.

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depreciates our reaction time to fulfill contingency requirements beyond what I believe acceptable. It would therefore make more sense to me if we simply assigned the Cuba missions to the Agency and recognize that

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Even then we will not have the rapid response that the Community has come to expect over the years.

*The above is not acceptable and*  
If we finally conclude that it is most advisable to transfer one

aircraft to the Air Force, it must be recognized that we would pull one

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in order to continue the systems testing which is important to the safety of both of our fleets, as well as the capability of the satellite programs. *testing which undergirds*

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It is my view that if we transfer the Cuba mission to the Agency and SAC reduces their operating bases from three to two, that both fleets will most nearly approach the tasks assigned to them

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or depreciate the overall fleet capability beyond acceptable limits.